

THREE KINGS OF CHRISTMAS PART III
“A VULNERABLE KING”
MATTHEW 2:1 & COLOSSIANS 1:26-27
DECEMBER 16-17, 2017

INTRODUCTION

- The Christmas story is of a king of a different kind.
- A king born as a baby in a manger.
- It is fraught with all types of peril and vulnerability.

I. THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS

- Matthew 2:7-8, 12-13, “Herod called...the wise men... ‘Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child...come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!’”¹²...they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them...not to return to Herod.¹³...an angel of the Lord appeared... ‘Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and His mother,’... ‘Stay there...because Herod is going to search for the child to kill Him.”
- 9 times Jesus is referred to as a child.
- The story of this king begins at birth...His hope is born.
- Colossians 1:26-27, “Christ in you the hope of glory.”
- 2 Key Words - hope and glory
- In Scripture, hope is secure!
- The hope of Christmas was that God would send a King, a Messiah, a Savior.
- The second word is glory – “Christ in you, the hope of glory.”
- The Christmas gift is Christ's guarantee to us that we will break through. If we stay in!

II. WHY A CHRISTMAS CHILD?

- This child was vulnerable - Isaiah 53:5
- In order to experience “Christ in you the hope of glory,” we must become vulnerable.
- Dictionary says = susceptible to injury, unprotected from danger.
- Jesus came to redeem us as a child – vulnerable.
- He was as helpless as we are sometimes.
- But He was never at risk. He had all the resources and power of heaven backing Him.
- John 10:18, “I lay it down (my life) on my own initiative.” “No one has taken it away from me.”
- God could have sent His Son with no chance of vulnerability.
- God knew man did not need a show of power, but of love and love requires vulnerability.

III. GOD'S WAY IS ALWAYS VULNERABLE

- Open to risk.
- Divine way - Savior child
- No chance He would not fulfill His call. He had:
 - Protection, Direction, Provision
- This baby will fulfill His purpose to redeem mankind, but He faced every threat we face.
- Fulfilling prophecies in Micah 5:2 & Hosea 11:1
- God is not threatened by man's edicts or decrees.
- His redemption wasn't dependent on man, but on Himself!

CLOSE

- Remember “Christ in you the hope of glory.”
- God's purpose in you is never at risk.